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Roanoke Valley Resource Authority Announces Plan to Create Renewable Natural Gas from Landfill Gas

ROANOKE, Virginia – July 21, 2023 – Roanoke Valley Resource Authority (RVRA) announced a long-term agreement to transform waste emissions from its Smith Gap Regional Landfill into renewable natural gas (RNG). As part of the arrangement, RVRA will send landfill gas to a processing facility owned and operated by Archaea Energy, a bp-owned company and one of the largest and fastest-growing RNG producers in the U.S.

As organic materials decompose in landfills, they generate methane and other naturally occurring gases. RVRA will collect these gases through a series of gas wells and pipes and transport them to Archaea’s on-site RNG plant, projected to open in 2025. The plant will convert the landfill gas into pipeline-quality RNG and will be sold to end consumers, replacing traditional fossil fuels for powering homes, businesses and vehicles.

"This project underlines our commitment to advancing environmental stewardship while benefiting our local communities," said Jeremy Garrett the Director of Operations, Technical Services of RVRA. The RVRA is the municipal solid waste handler for Roanoke County, Roanoke City, Salem City, and the Town of Vinton. "RVRA has always been committed to innovative solutions that bring economic and environmental benefits to the communities we serve. This agreement will transform the existing landfill gas into a valuable energy resource without requiring any capital investment from RVRA."

The project will reduce RVRA’s annual operational costs for compliance, generate a new stream of revenue for RVRA and work to improve air quality across the Roanoke Valley Region.

About Roanoke Valley Resource Authority:
Roanoke Valley Resource Authority is a public entity serving Roanoke County, Roanoke City, Salem City, and the Town of Vinton by providing safe, reliable, and efficient municipal solid waste management. With a commitment to sustainability and innovation, RVRA is dedicated to serving the community's waste management needs while minimizing environmental impact.

About Archaea Energy:
Archaea Energy, a bp-owned company, is one of the largest RNG producers in the U.S., with an industry-leading platform and expertise in developing, constructing, and operating RNG facilities to capture waste emissions and convert them into low carbon fuel. Archaea partners with landfill and farm owners to help them transform emissions into RNG, transforming their facilities into renewable energy centers. Additional information is available at www.archaeaenergy.com.

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